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been discovered and appear to have been written according to a regular legal form.

The volume should appeal not only to the classical student but to anyone interested in ancient life. To the student of the New Testament it will be specially illuminating.

G. C. SCOGGIN

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Selections from the Latin Literature of the Early Empire. Edited by A. C. B. BROWN, Fereday Fellow of St. John's College, Assistant Master at Marlborough College. Part A: "Inner Life"; Part B: "Outer Life." Oxford: Henry Frowde, 1910. Crown 8vo, pp. 128+128. Price 60 cents each; in one volume, \$1.10.

We have here presented in attractive form an interesting set of selections illustrating many phases of the "inner" and the "outer" life of the Empire. Part I is made up of 19 passages from Tacitus, Juvenal, Pliny, Ovid, and Horace arranged under the headings "Politics," "Education," "Literature," and "Philosophy"; Part II of 28 passages from Horace, Juvenal, Martial, Pliny, and Petronius covering "Social Types," "Social Incidents," and "Town and Country." About one-half of the work consists of Latin text, so that the sum total is not inconsiderable. The selections are made with taste and discrimination for the most part, though it is obviously impossible to please everybody. Somewhat surprising is the failure to include anything at all from the Moral Essays of Seneca under the caption "Philosophy," and it is unfortunate that this author should be represented here by the *Ludus* alone, a work which gives no very exalted impression either of his wit or of his taste, and none at all of his real merits. Perhaps, too, room might have been made for some of the chatty but very significant anecdotes of Suetonius by curtailing somewhat the long and rather numerous selections from Juvenal. Mr. Brown evidently feels that the political situation was on the whole profoundly gloomy, all but one of the six extracts under "Politics" casting a very somber hue. To be sure the other side of the shield is not so frequently nor so tellingly illustrated in literature, but we have without doubt too long and too exclusively looked at the first Caesars through the spectacles of the senatorial opposition.

The selections were made to serve as a textbook for the Oxford Local Examinations. How successfully they attain their object it is not for an American reviewer to say. Under the conditions that prevail in this country, however, they could be used with profit only by classes well along in their undergraduate course, for there is a striking lack of all grammatical aids and explanations to which American students have grown accustomed. However much we may sympathize with the editor in his general view—"The best

way of dealing with questions of syntax is to refer to one's grammar. The scope of the notes is therefore limited to the explanation of the subject-matter. An attempt has been made to exclude from them such things as may be discovered by anyone who is prepared to use both his dictionary and his wits"—Mr. Brown has gone perhaps too far therein. Anything like assistance in translation is very rarely given indeed even for Juvenal and Tacitus, though, of course, some aids must be given for Petronius. Once the sentence order is reconstructed (Horace, *Serm.* i. 5. 87-88), but even such an oddity as *laevo suspensi loculos tabulamque lacerto* is completely passed over, although most students of my acquaintance are apt to balk at it. Not infrequently long passages have not a single note of any sort; so, e.g., two whole pages of Pliny in Part I, while three pages of the *Dialogus* have only a single observation. On the other hand Mr. Brown seems to be unable to take for granted even the most rudimentary knowledge of Greek and Roman history, his notes on this subject being numerous and full. Surprising too is the absence of any reference to meter or prosody despite the inclusion of the elegiac distich and the hendecasyllable, though doubtless these matters too can be looked up in grammars and dictionaries. Mr. Brown evidently dislikes the terms "emperor" and "reign," substituting *princeps* and *principate* for them almost everywhere except in the very title of the book. It is questionable if much be gained by using the more technical word, especially if you have to be inconsistent. We all speak of "consuls" in early Roman history though it is perfectly well known that for a long time these officers were really called "praetors."

Positive errors are very few. The twelfth book of Martial's *Epigrams*, however, quite certainly does not date from 96 A.D., but from 101-102. Such a statement as "a Roman exile was outside the pale of civilization" (p. 46) requires modification. The note on *coactor* (I, p. 60) is an unfortunate abbreviation of Wickham's at best unsatisfactory statement. There is really little room to doubt that Horace's father was an auctioneer, i.e., *coactor argentarius*. Cf. Ps. Acron and Porphyrio *ad loc.* (*Serm.* i. 6. 86), and *coactor* in Pauly-Wissowa. But to emphasize trifles of this sort would create a false impression of the book, which is one of sound if not showy learning throughout. It can be unhesitatingly recommended as an excellent selection from the best authors for rapid reading in class, or for supplementary reading in courses on Roman history or private life.

Misprints are rare, the only really confusing one noted being "formed" for "farmed" (I, p. 60). The unusual plan of having the notes follow each selection upon a separate page has caused not a little space to be wasted (for example, the material upon pp. 45-48 of Part II could easily have been printed upon a single page), and detracts somewhat from the appearance of the book.

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